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a national association, which speaks powerfully for interests representing many hundreds of millions of dollars of capital, and which substantially represents the class of persons known as middlemen, who distribute the products of the farm. But this national association does not include all of the boards of trade, chambers of commerce, and produce exchanges. These in the aggregate number between 1300 and 1400, the largest number among the States being found in New York; second to which stands Pennsylvania; third, Ohio; and, fourth, Massachusetts.

There is a class of these boards of trade especially concerned with cotton, generally known as cotton exchanges, which are associations of middlemen with the object of obtaining information in regard to the condition of the market as influenced by demand, supply, production, available cotton, and, in some cases, of dealing in futures. The cities and towns where these exchanges are situated are as follows: Eufaula, Birmingham, Mobile, Montgomery, and Selma, Ala.; Little Rock and Texarkana, Ark.; Atlanta, Columbus, Rome, Savannah, and Augusta, Ga.; Monroe, New Orleans, and Shreveport, La.; Greenville, Greenwood, Meridian, Natchez, Vicksburg, and Yazoo City, Miss.; St. Louis, Mo.; New York, N. Y.; Newbern, Wilmington, and Raleigh, N. C.; Charleston and Columbia, S. C.; Memphis, and Nashville, Tenn.; Galveston, Dallas, Fort Worth, Sherman, Waco, and Houston, Tex.; Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Richmond, Va.

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#### GENERAL REMARKS ON THE GUNSHOT WOUNDS OF 1898 AND 1899.

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The following extract is taken from the annual report of the Surgeon-General of the United States Army:—

Of the 4919 men injured by gunshot during the years 1898 and 1899, 586 were killed and 4333 were wounded and received into the field and other hospitals. The killed constituted 11.9 per cent of those struck, the wounded 88.1 per cent. In other words, 1 man was killed for every 7.4 wounded. The Mauser bullet must therefore be regarded as less deadly than the larger missile used during the Civil War. The medical and surgical history of the Civil War shows the following casualties:—

	Killed.	Wounded.
United States troops, . . . . .	59,860	280,040
Confederate troops, . . . . .	51,425	227,871
Total, . . . . .	111,285	507,911

In percentages the casualties were: Killed, 17.97; wounded, 82.03; or 1 man killed to every 4.56 wounded. The relative proportion of killed was therefore considerably larger during the Civil War than during our recent experiences. It is to be noted also that many of the wounds of the past two years were made by missiles of large calibre. Of those reported in 1899, 471 were specially stated as having been caused by the Remington bullet of calibre .45. It is safe to say that had the whole number of wounds received been inflicted by the smaller Mauser or Krag-Jorgensen bullet the percentage of immediately fatal wounds would have been materially lessened.

The less deadly character of the injuries inflicted by the modern bullet is manifested also when we exclude the killed and regard only those wounds which came under the care of the surgeons. Of these, during the two years, there were 4333, and 259 of the patients, or 6 per cent of the whole number, died. The corresponding percentage from the records of the Civil War was 14.3. Table C in Part I of the medical volume of the *Medical and Surgical History of the War of the Rebellion*, shows that among the white troops of the army there were borne on the reports of the sick and wounded 230,018 gunshot wounds, of which 32,907, or 14.3 per cent, proved fatal. The marked reduction of the ratio of killed to wounded may be placed to the credit of the small-calibre bullet; but the lessened mortality among the cases which came into the hospital may not wholly be attributed to the humane character of the wounds inflicted by this missile. Due credit must be given to the improved surgical methods of the present day. Wounds of any region of the body may be taken in comparison and the result will always be found to show a decided lessening in the percentage of cases ending fatally among those of the past two years, as compared with those of the Civil War. Take, for instance, gunshot wounds of the femur. During the Civil War surgeons in the field hospitals regarded a fractured femur as a serious menace to life, the danger from which was believed to be materially lessened by an immediate amputation. The field hospital surgical work after a battle consisted in great part of amputations, excisions, and resections. Of 6576 fractures of the femur, 2923 cases were treated by primary amputation, 186 by resection, and the remaining 3467 by conservative or expectant measures, this conservative action being due in many

cases to a want of favorable conditions for the performance of primary operations. The limb was promptly amputated in 44.4 per cent of these gunshot fractures.

On the other hand, during the past two years 82 cases of gunshot fracture of the femur were reported, 6 of which were treated by primary amputation, and 2 by resection; the remaining 74 cases being treated by conservative methods, not because the conditions were not favorable for the performance of primary operations, but because of a conviction that under present methods of treatment the limb could be preserved without adding materially to the danger to life. The limb was lost through surgical intervention in only 7.3 per cent of the cases.

Not only limbs but lives were saved by the surgical practice of the past two years. In the 82 gunshot fractures of the femur the upper third was involved in 32, of which 5 were fatal; the middle third in 27, of which 3 were fatal; and the lower third in 23, of which 1 was fatal. The mortality varied from 4.3 per cent of the cases in which the lower third was fractured to 15.6 per cent of the cases in which the upper third was the site of the injury, whereas the corresponding percentages of fatal cases during the Civil War were, respectively, 42.8 and 49.7. The whole of the lessened mortality in these serious fractures may be credited to the protection given to the wound by the first-aid dressing, and to the care exercised in the subsequent aseptic treatment of the fractured limb.

In penetrating wounds of the thorax the rate of mortality fell from 62.6 per cent during the the Civil War to 27.8 per cent during the years 1898 and 1899. The Civil War reports show 8403 cases in which the results were determined; 5260 deaths occurred among the number. The reports for the later years, as already stated, show 198 cases, of which 55 were fatal.

There were during the Civil War 3475 penetrating wounds of the abdomen in which the ultimate results were determined; 3031 of these, or 87.2 per cent of the total, proved fatal. During the years 1898 and 1899, 116 cases, 81 fatal, were recorded; the fatal cases constituting 70 per cent of the total. Of 10 cases in which laparotomy was performed, 9 were fatal.

The alteration in the percentages of mortality in fractures of the cranium is less marked than in wounds of other parts of the body. Of 4243 cases of cranial fracture during the Civil War, 2514, or 59.2 per cent, were fatal. In 1898 and 1899, 68 cases were recorded, with 37 deaths, the latter forming 54.4 per cent of the whole number.